

speaking club, in which he mentored young members on how to shake hands, answer two to three minute table topics, improve nose to nose communication, practice skills of vocal variety, mitigate use of filler words, use their hands to maintain audience attention, and take constructive recommendations from peers. He also taught the young men how to "step away from the podium" and "dance your words".

Today, the Crystal City chapter of the club is a healthy, vibrant community of communicators in Virginia's 8th Congressional District.

In a record 4 months, the club grew from near critical to President's Distinguished, the Toastmasters International's highest club ranking.

I salute the Toastmasters Potomac Club for their dedication to living out the values of Toastmasters International's founder Dr. Ralph Chester Smedley.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN C. COUGHLIN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Mr. John C. Coughlin on his retirement after an accomplished career, having served as a federal employee for 28 years.

Mr. Coughlin was born and raised in Bethesda, Maryland. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the United States Naval Academy, was commissioned as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy, and served in the Navy's Aviation and Intelligence Office Program as a Command Pilot and Program Manager. After serving his country, Mr. Coughlin joined the Department of Energy in 1989, where he began an impressive career working with the Department's radiological emergency response assets. He served in various prestigious capacities, including the Director of the Office of Emergency Operations and Response, the Special Assistant to the Office of Self-Assessment and Emergency Management, the Director of the Threat Assessment Division for the Department's Programmatic and Nuclear Threat Programs, the first Director of the Office of Emergency Planning Preparedness and Operations here, within the U.S. House of Representatives, and most recently, the Assistant Sergeant at Arms for the U.S. House of Representatives. His work over the past 28 years has greatly benefitted our nation's security and preparedness in the event of an emergency, and we are grateful for all he's done to ensure the safety and readiness of our country.

Mr. Coughlin has had an outstanding career in public service, and I am pleased to recognize him both as an upstanding citizen and an exemplary resident of Maryland's 6th District. I congratulate Mr. Coughlin on a successful and impactful career and wish him all the best during his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL JEDH COLBY BARKER

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a decorated veteran and a true American hero from New Jersey's Fifth District, Lance Corporal Jedh Colby Barker. Corporal Barker grew up in Bergen County in New Jersey, and graduated from Park Ridge High School. In 1967, Corporal Barker was assigned to Fox Company in the Marine Corps, where he heroically defended his comrades in the line of fire during Operation Kingfisher. Corporal Barker's actions on this day earned him the most prestigious military decoration, the Congressional Medal of Honor.

I am including the Congressional Medal of Honor citation to highlight Corporal Barker's actions:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a machine gunner with Company F. During a reconnaissance operation L/Cpl. Barker's squad was suddenly hit by enemy sniper fire. The squad immediately deployed to a combat formation and advanced to a strongly fortified enemy position, when it was again struck by small arms and automatic weapons fire, sustaining numerous casualties. Although wounded by the initial burst of fire, L/Cpl. Barker boldly remained in the open, delivering a devastating volume of accurate fire on the numerically superior force. The enemy was intent upon annihilating the small marine force and, realizing that L/Cpl. Barker was a threat to their position, directed the preponderance of their fire on his position. He was again wounded, this time in the right hand, which prevented him from operating his vitally needed machine gun. Suddenly and without warning, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the few surviving marines. Unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his personal safety, L/Cpl. Barker threw himself upon the deadly grenade, absorbing with his body the full and tremendous force of the explosion. In a final act of bravery, he crawled to the side of a wounded comrade and administered first aid before succumbing to his grievous wounds. His bold initiative, intrepid fighting spirit and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of almost certain death undoubtedly saved his comrades from further injury or possible death and reflected great credit upon himself, the Marine Corps, and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

September 21, 2017 will mark the 50th anniversary of Corporal Barker's remarkable patriotism and valor on the battlefield during the Vietnam War. The Marine Corps motto is, "Semper Fidelis", meaning, "always faithful". Corporal Barker lived and embodied that to the fullest. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lance Corporal Jedh Colby Barker, a true American hero. His family, the Fifth District, and all Americans should be proud of Lance Corporal Jedh Colby Barker. His memory and heroism in the line of duty will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO OREGON HONOR FLIGHT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize 26 Oregon veterans who traveled here today to visit Washington, D.C. These brave men and women risked their lives to protect and defend the United States and have now come to our nation's capital to visit the monuments and memorials they helped inspire. The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Archie Brown, Richard "Dick" Burling, Robert "Bob" Burness, Louis "Caldonia" Caldarelli, Francis Charriere, Harold Engelen, Donald "Red" Eudaly, Wilhelm "Bill" Guttormsen, Jack Hartung, Vidus "Vince" Klune, Robert "Bob" Jewitt, James "Jay" Majors, Glen McCall, Andrew "Andy" McDermaid, Larry D. Miller, Barbara "Jeanne" Moss, Hal Pally, Robert "Bob" Petchell, Robert "Bob" Schug, Sylvester "Pat" Smith Jr, Martin Spellman, Patricia "Patty" Sprigg, John Steigleder, Ralph Thompson, William "Bill" Walker, and Alan Lertzman.

RECOGNIZING B3CG INTERCONNECT IN PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate B3CG Interconnect on the opening of their new plant in Plattsburgh, New York.

B3CG is a world leader in the manufacturing of cable, harnessing and electrical mechanical assembly. In 2009, the owners of B3CG decided to expand their business from its headquarters in Saint-Eustache, Quebec, and open a second plant in Plattsburgh, New York. This move has allowed B3CG to expand their business within the United States, contributing greatly to the North Country economy in the process.

With B3CG now moving into a new facility in Plattsburgh, we can reflect on all of the company's important work in the transportation, medical and industrial sectors, as well as their contributions to the upstate community. By employing state of the art manufacturing technology and a dedicated local workforce, B3CG has built a strong relationship with the people of New York's 21st District, one which we are excited to continue.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank B3CG Interconnect for its contributions to the North Country and wish it the best of luck in its new location.